



THE COAST GUARD RESERVIST

CG-288

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

VOL. XXII, NO. 7

WASHINGTON, D.C.

APRIL 1975

The Coast Guard Reserve has a continuing need for junior officers. Reserve officers released from active duty after fulfilling a three-year active duty commitment fill part of this need, but they usually are relatively senior LTJGs or LTs by the time they affiliate with the inactive duty Reserve program.

THE ADMIRAL'S CORNER



The principal source for filling ENS and some LTJG billets for the inactive duty Coast Guard Reserve is the direct commission program -- and the primary source of direct commission candidates is enlisted Coast Guard reservists.

Letters received at Headquarters and discussions with potential applicants in the field lead me to believe there is confusion concerning the requirements of our direct commission program. The question of potential waivers, in particular, may be the cause of some misunderstandings.

In an effort to correct and simplify the procedures, a Commandant Notice (1120 series) establishing new guidelines for the administration of the direct commission program is being prepared and should be distributed soon.

This new notice will replace one issued last year which had set up semi-annual submission dates and best qualified selection procedures. These measures did not work as effectively as had been hoped.

Applications shall continue to be processed by the district commander (p) and forwarded to Commandant (G-PMR) as completed. However, a monthly Headquarters examining board select applicants who will be tendered commissions will replace the previous boards held semi-annually.

Historically, direct commission

applications have been submitted to fill vacant or prospective vacant district billets. The interpretation of "prospective vacant billet," however, varied considerably from district to district. Because direct commissions have been tied directly to the availability of pay billets, many highly desirable individuals have been discouraged from making application.

The new guidelines of the program aim to encourage application from any prospective candidate who thinks he or she may be qualified. For this reason the concept of "prospective vacant billet" has been liberalized to facilitate such application.

The Coast Guard Reserve direct commission program is open to applicants in most Reserve specialties. Specialty requirements are listed in Articles 1-C-7 through 1-C-19 of the Personnel Manual (CG-207). Additionally, applications for other than those listed specialties may be considered. In such a case, complete justification and documentation must accompany the application. The program is not open to non-rated personnel, however.

AGE. Age requirements have been changed so that only actual age will determine an applicant's eligibility. Prior military service will no longer be used to decrease a person's age (known as constructive age) under the direct commission program.

Applicants for ENS or LTJG must be between 21 and 35 years old and for LT between 25 and 40. (Almost all direct commissions are tendered only in the ENS and LTJG grades.) Current Coast Guard Reserve permanent chief warrant officers eligible for direct commission as LTJG must be less than 45 years old. Due to their experience and position no ad-

see ADM's CNR, page 4

BITNER Earns Coast Guard Medal

Boatswain's Mate Third Class Ira A. BITNER, II, USCGR received the Coast Guard Medal in ceremonies on Governor's Island, NY in early March 1975.

CAPT Frank OLIVER, USCG, New York Captain of the Port, presented Petty Officer BITNER the prestigious medal for heroism, which ranks ahead of the Bronze Star Medal and is the second highest Coast Guard-only decoration.

BITNER, a reservist who volunteered for two years of active duty, was cited for his May 1974 rescue of two men whose small fishing boat had capsized in high winds and heavy seas.

see CG Medal, page 3



BM3 Ira A. Bitner, II, USCGR receives the Coast Guard Medal and congratulations from CAPT Frank OLIVER, USCG.

Navy League Presents Jarvis Award to HIGH

CAPT Leslie D. HIGH, USCG, commanding officer of Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, VA, was presented the David H. Jarvis Award for inspirational leadership at the Navy League national convention in New Orleans, LA on 24 April 1975.

The award is presented annually by the Navy League of the United States to the Coast Guard officer making the most outstanding contribution to the traditional high standards of leadership in the Coast Guard.

The award is named for Coast Guard Captain David H. Jarvis, Revolutionary War hero.

CGR Augments Louisville VTS

Reservists from Coast Guard Reserve Unit Louisville (KY) are assuming off-hour operation of the Louisville Vessel Traffic System (VTS) when that system goes into effect.

A change in operating requirements has caused the VTS to operate at a substantially higher level this year. It goes into effect whenever the upper gauge on McAlpine Dam shows a water level of 13 feet, as opposed to 15 feet in the past. Therefore reservists have been called on more

On-site Training Program Initiated in 11th District

The Eleventh Coast Guard District conducted a joint Regular-Reserve operational training program in October 1974 to promote the "One Coast Guard" policy.

This two-week "on-site training" program brought Coast Guard Regular and Reserve forces together at their normal duty station/augmentation site at Coast Guard Station Channel Islands Harbor (CA).

LTJG L. W. KRELL, USCGR of Coast Guard Reserve Unit Santa Barbara, who planned the program with BMC Carroll D. BLACKWELL, USCG, executive officer of the station, served as the principal instructor and coordinator.

The objective of the on-site training was to increase the SAR proficiency of station personnel and to reduce the time required to qualify reservists as coxswains.

The training, modeled after the Small Boat Operations Course at Pacific Area Reserve Training

enue Cutter Service, who, as a First Lieutenant on the cutter Bear in 1897, led an overland expedition across 1500 miles of frozen seas and Alaskan mountains, driving a herd of reindeer to the 300 crewmen of 10 whaling ships which were trapped in the ice. LT Jarvis was presented the Gold Medal of Honor by a special act of Congress for his heroic actions in the rescue.

CAPT HIGH took command of RTC Yorktown in July, 1973. The training center has since increased its training capabilities and has been honored with the Coast Guard Meritorious Service Award.

often this year.

Louisville reservists operated the system during off-hours for 16 days beginning 3 January 1975. They were also on duty from 3 to 15 February 1975 and beginning again on Monday, 24 February into mid-March. One or two commissioned and up to four chief petty officers are available for this duty.

The reservists are brought in on OE-funded Special Active Duty for Training (SADT) to augment active duty personnel when the system goes into effect. Last year \$9000 of Second District SADT money was expended in this way.

Reservists originally began augmenting the understaffed VTS in November 1973. They assisted as needed through June 1974 before beginning operations again in January 1975.

CG Commendation Medal Awarded for Rescue

Damage Controlman First Class Charles FERGUSON, USCGR recently received the Coast Guard Commendation Medal for meritorious service for his actions on 26 May 1974 in saving the life of a San Diego, CA woman who had been presumed drowned.

The award was made 21 December 1974 during an all hands inspection at Coast Guard Air Station San Diego. Among those present was Linda Keithly, the 18-year old woman Petty Officer FERGUSON had saved.

DC1 FERGUSON, assigned to the Boating Safety detachment of Coast Guard Reserve Unit San Diego I, was on an off-duty fishing trip at Senator Wash Reservoir in California last May.

He saw a boat with a woman's

CG Medal, from page 1

The Hanover, PA resident was on duty at Coast Guard Station Executioner Rocks in Long Island Sound, NY when he witnessed a fishing vessel capsize with three men aboard.

BM3 BITNER then launched the station's small boat and alone battled 25-knot winds and six-foot seas to the scene.

One of the three fishermen was being swept away from the overturned boat. As Petty Officer BITNER maneuvered his boat toward the man, he also threw life preservers to the other two men still clinging to their boat. Fighting against heavy seas, BITNER was unable to reach the first man before he disappeared beneath the surface.

When his search for the man proved fruitless, BITNER returned to the overturned craft and singlehandedly pulled the semi-conscious men from the frigid water and took them to shore and safety.

After the two shocked men were safely ashore, Petty Officer BITNER returned to the area where he had last seen the first fisherman and continued to search. He was forced to return to the Coast Guard station after the hull of his boat developed a crack and the radio was knocked out of commission.

The citation from ADM O.W. SILER, USCG, Commandant of the Coast Guard, read, "Petty Officer BITNER demonstrated remarkable initiative, exceptional fortitude and daring in spite of imminent personal danger in this rescue mission. His unselfish actions, courage, and unwavering devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard."

body across the bow come to the launch ramp area. FERGUSON investigated and was told that the woman, Mrs. Keithly, had drowned.

Petty Officer FERGUSON, using his Coast Guard first aid training, detected a slight pulse in the woman and immediately began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. After about 20 minutes, Mrs. Keithly started breathing and under care of an Army medical corpsman was transported to the hospital.

DC1 FERGUSON's citation states that "his sound judgment and unwavering devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Coast Guard."

The awards ceremony was the first meeting between Mrs. Keithly and Petty Officer FERGUSON since the lifesaving.

see On-site, page 4

ADT Evaluation Form Developed

The Reserve Training Division Headquarters has recently published a new Reserve Active Duty Training Evaluation form (Form CG-5027) intended to improve feedback to the training command and the Commandant from reservists undergoing two-week ADT school training.

Each reservist attending an ADT school at Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, VA or Pacific Area

Direct Petty Officers Need Courses to Qualify for SWE

Direct petty officers in provisional pay grades E-5 and E-6 must satisfactorily complete the appropriate E-4 correspondence course in order to qualify for competition in the servicewide examination. Attendance at a two-week basic rating-related school does not meet the correspondence course requirement for participation in the servicewide exam.

The correspondence courses complement the subjects taught at the two-week basic rating-related schools by providing additional, detailed information. In addition, taking the end-of-course test provides valuable practice for the servicewide examination.

Direct petty officers who desire to increase knowledge of their ratings should also take the optional E-5 and/or E-6 correspondence courses. This effort will improve their chances vastly for successful competition in the servicewide examination.

WO Boards Need Up-to-Date Records

Attention enlisted personnel up for selection for appointment as Warrant Officer. Are you sure your records at Headquarters are up-to-date?

If there is any doubt that your accomplishments and qualifications are current, you should submit a communication to the Promotion Board pointing out areas of accomplishment.

Important information to have on file includes amount of college work completed, type of degree received (including major fields), and special schools or courses of instruction attended.

It is important that your record be complete. Such information may prove to be a determining factor in whether you are selected for appointment to a Warrant grade.

Reserve Training School, Alameda, CA, will complete the form. It will then be reviewed by the training command for improving the training and instruction offered as well as the training facilities and station services.

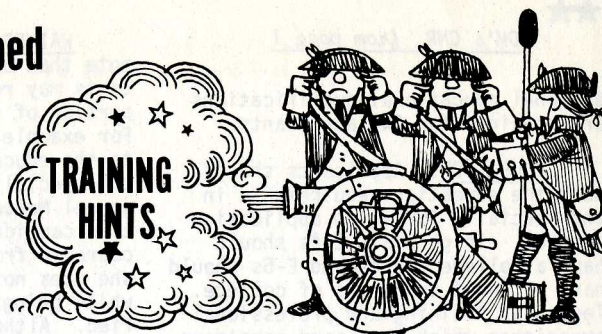
After review by the training command, the evaluation forms will be forwarded to Commandant (G-RT) for review, statistical analysis, and record purposes. Commandant (G-RT) will use them to chart the general trends and directions in which the individual Reserve Training programs appear to be headed and to maintain an overview of the general condition of formal Reserve training.

The forms have two sections. The first is titled Academic Evaluation and asks the reservist to rate on a five-point scale the quality of instruction, curriculum, and training materials. Ample room is provided for comments dealing with situations the reservist may wish to emphasize.

The second section deals with the training facilities and station services, including adequacy, living conditions, services, and recreation facilities. It employs a similar five-point scale, with room for comments on each situation.

Finally, the form solicits some background information about the reservist, including years in the Coast Guard, rate and rating, whether the reservist had requested the school attended, and a place for his or her signature, which is optional.

The new form will assist significantly the training commands and the Commandant in evaluating and acting upon suggestions by reservists to improve training. In addition, it will allow for the first time an overall assessment of how reservists through-



out the country perceive the time spent at ADT schools. While each command has used evaluation forms for several years, a general assessment was not possible due to differences in the forms used.

Fourth Edition of HMC Course Dropped

Extensive changes in the Personnel Manual, the Medical Manual, the Comptroller Manual, and other publications used in the development of the HMC course have made most of the fourth edition of that course out of date.

The fourth edition of the HMC course, therefore, has been dropped in order to eliminate the situation of teaching obsolete information while requiring full knowledge of current information on the job.

A fifth edition of the HMC course should be ready for issue about January 1976. New enrollment applications for the HMC course will not be accepted until the fifth edition is ready for issue.

Candidates for HMC, whether they completed the HMC-4 course or not, should study the appropriate sections of the Personnel Manual; Coast Guard Regulations; Publications and Reports Index; Paperwork Management Manual; Disaster Control Manual; and Commandant Instructions in series 5300, 6200, 6300, 6400, and 6700 to prepare for competition in the servicewide examination. Any manual or instruction not available at a Reserve unit can be obtained from the district office.

Reserve Officer Promotion Status

The status of inactive duty Reserve officer promotions to LT through CAPT as of 1 June 1975 is shown below. Listed are the names and signal numbers of the junior officers on the latest selection lists for whom vacancies exist and whose running mates have been promoted. In addition, the officer's position on the selection list and the number remaining on that list are shown.

Junior Reached	Signal Number	Position On List	Number Left
CAPT - August H. DOUGLAS, Jr.	167	11	6
CDR - Philip L. ADAIR	749	99	0
LCDR - Richard F. SANDERS	1569	70	0
LT - Darrell W. FLOYD	3365	194	51



ADM's CNR, from page 1

ditional educational qualifications are required for CWO applicants.

EDUCATION. Applicants should meet the education requirements in the specialty for which application is made. In general, E-4s should have a college degree and E-5s should have at least two years of college. Technical training and professional experience which the board considers to be equivalent to a baccalaureate degree in an open specialty may normally be substituted for formal education.

In addition, educational requirements may be waived on an individual case basis upon application for such a waiver. An applicant who does have a baccalaureate degree will not have to qualify for a particular specialty.

TESTING. Former officers or chief warrant officers from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, including Reserve components, who have served at least one year in a commissioned status are no longer required to take the Officer Qualification Test (OQT).

For others required to take the OQT, the language section may be waived for applicants from geographical areas where English is not the native tongue. Such a waiver request must accompany the application.

PRIOR SERVICE. Prior service requirements [Article 1-C-6(f)] remain in effect with one exception. Applicants with 13 or more years prior military service, none of which is with the Coast Guard or Coast Guard Reserve, are not eligible for the program.

WAIVERS. It is important to note that otherwise qualified applicants may request a waiver for any portion of the basic qualifications. For example, this provision applies to the educational requirements of the specialties listed in the Personnel Manual. Therefore a prospective candidate should not be discouraged from applying because he or she does not meet one requirement while being in all other ways qualified. Although waivers are certainly not automatic, they can be granted. It does not hurt to apply for one.

In any such case, however, a personal endorsement by the district commander (d) is required before a waiver will be considered. Applications from unqualified or marginally qualified candidates will not be processed.

The new COMDTNOTE recommends to the district commanders that liaison officers be assigned to work with district commander (p) in recruiting candidates for the direct commission program and in accelerating the application process. This measure is designed to encourage applications from interested and qualified enlisted members of the Reserve. The liaison officer will be in a good position to follow-up on applications through the Reserve unit chain-of-command.

These changes to the direct commission program, the use of a liaison officer and the clarification of waiver applications in particular, should give the program a boost. It is felt that these changes will stimulate applications from qualified enlisted reservists, who should compose the majority of our direct commission applicants. I encourage each reservist who considers himself or her-

self to be qualified to consider carefully a career as an officer in the Coast Guard Reserve.

J. E. Johansen

J. E. JOHANSEN

On-site, from page 3

School (PARTS), Reserve Training Center, Alameda, CA, emphasized navigation, SAR techniques, and boat handling. Work aboard the station's new 41-footer and participation in actual SAR cases augmented classroom training.

Debriefings of actual SAR cases and navigational problems added to the training. CW03 John TOLEJKO, USCG, commanding officer of the station, evaluated the reservists under operating conditions.

Coast Guard Reservist

Published monthly in Washington, D.C. by the Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard. Reference to directives, regulations, and orders is for information only and does not by publication herein constitute authority for action. Inquiries about the Coast Guard Reserve should be addressed to the Commandant (G-R-81) Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C., 20590.

ADMIRAL O.W. SILER
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard

RADM J. E. JOHANSEN
Chief, Office of Reserve

LTJG D. K. SECREST
Editor

All photographs are official Coast Guard material unless otherwise designated.

Members of the Coast Guard Reserve are invited to submit articles of interest to the Editor of RESERVIST for possible publication.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
U. S. COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. COAST GUARD
DOT 514

